(b) In the first Memorandum submitted by the Government of Himachal Pradesh, in the wake of these flash floods in June, 2005, the estimated damage was reported at approximately Rs. 610 crore. Thereafter, in the second Memorandum submitted by the State Government which covers damage caused due to heavy rains and floods in some parts of the State in July, 2005, was estimated at Rs. 398 crore.

The Central Government extended timely required logistic and financial support to the State Government to meet the situation. The logistic support extended to the State by the Government of India included the deployment of manpower and air support to supplement the efforts of the State Government in rescue and relief operations and also for the restoration " of connectively with the affected areas.

The Government of India has released both the installments of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) aggregating to an amount of Rs. 75.52 crore for the year 2005-06 and an *ad hoc* release of Rs. 100 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). An Inter Ministerial Central Team has visited the flood affected areas of the State on two occasions to assess the damage and requirement of funds for relief operations by the State Government. The report of the Central Team, for providing additional assistance, is considered as per the extant norms and laid down procedure.

(c) As per available information, the artificial lake formed due to landslides on the river Parechu has broken down and at this stage, it does not pose any majcr potential threat to the downstream areas of Parechu river.

Regions under Naxalism

† 3044. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 9000 activists engaged in Naxal activities are active in the country at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of them, 6,000 activists are equipped with arms;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the facts in this regard;

(d) the region which have become the main centres of Naxal activities now; and

(e) the reasons behind these regions coming under influence of Naxalism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c)As per available information, the present strength of hardcore naxalite cadres is around 9300. Their arms holding includes around 6300 regular weapons and a large number of country-made arms.

(d) 76 districts in 9 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are affected by naxalite violence/activity in varying degrees. Besides, naxalites are also trying to spread their influence in some parts of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttaranchal.

(e) Socio-economic disparities, some local issues such as threat of eviction from forest areas, lack of development, backwardness and inadequate/ineffective mechanisms for redressal of public grievances are some of the reasons, which are exploited by the naxalites in these regions in spreading their activities.

Development of roads on Indo-Nepal Border

† 3045. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by the Centre since financial year 2000-01 till now for construction, development and upgradation of roads of Indp-Nepal border areas of Bihar, year-wise;

(b) the total amount released against it alongwith the amount spent on it; and

(c) the details thereof alongwith the physical achievements made?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.